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[10191/4504]

CONTROL UNIT

Field of the Invention

The invention is generally directed to a control unit having an oscillator for a processor (μ C).

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The invention provides a control unit having an oscillator for a processor (μ C), the control unit being configured so that the control unit stores a temporary absence of oscillation of the oscillator in a first error memory (15), if oscillation begins again after the absence.

10 The control unit according to the invention has the advantage that when temporary interruptions occur in the oscillations of an oscillator for a processor in a control unit, these interruptions, which may occur for example due to temperature dependencies or shunt resistances in the oscillator circuit, 15 are stored in an error memory. In particular, this avoids unnecessary visits to the repair shop which a customer would have made in response to a brief illumination of the warning lamp, the shop then not being able to determine why the warning lamp was activated.

20 The control unit according to the present invention makes it possible to write this error to a permanent error memory of the control unit. This improves the possibilities for servicing control units, in particular in the case of airbag triggering devices. Oscillators which are temporarily not 25 oscillating are identified, and these errors are stored in the memory.

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